

ABSTRACT

A method and system for managing communications in a packet-based real-time media conference. A conference server determines whether a given conference session should operate in half-duplex mode or in full-duplex mode, and the server instructs at least one participating station accordingly. In the half-duplex mode of operation, for instance, a station may engage in an implicit floor control process, in which the station treats an incoming media stream as an implicit floor denial. On the other hand, in the full-duplex mode of operation, a station would not treat an incoming stream as an implicit floor denial.